

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3866

ANSWERED ON:08.12.2016

Larger Biogas Plants

Reddy Shri Konda Vishweshwar

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that mid-sized and large sized biogas plants are found to be more effective and efficient than family plant, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is planning to conduct any comparative assessment of different types of biogas plants mentioned above; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to promote setting up of larger biogas plants?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR POWER, COAL, NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY & MINES (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a): The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) is implementing the programmes for promotion of family sized biogas plants for domestic cooking and mid – sized and large-sized biogas plants for off-grid/grid power generation and Bio-CNG production. The efficiency and effectiveness of a well-designed biogas plant depends on feedstock material, proper feeding and mixing of feedstock and maintenance of biogas plant including removal of spent slurry from the outlet and consumption of biogas produced. The mid-sized and large-sized biogas plant may be more effective and efficient because of their volume which enables gas evolution creating some mixing, provided they are designed and operated with the required quantity of feedstock, load management and proper maintenance. However, a detailed performance evaluation and analysis is needed to establish the effect.

(b): The MNRE has brought out a National Lab Policy for Testing, Standardisation and Certification for renewable energy sector. It strongly emphasises the need for adopting standards, performance testing and certification in all areas of new and renewable energy including biogas. The policy document will be released in a National Workshop scheduled to be held on 22nd December 2016 at Vigyan Bhawan. A proposal for performance evaluation of biogas plants is underway for scaling up the programme.

(c): The MNRE is providing support for promoting larger biogas plants for decentralised off-grid power generation applications in the range of 3kW-250kW including thermal applications utilizing cattle/food/agriculture wastes etc. in gaushalas, dairies, small farms, etc. Biogas generation from Urban, Industrial and Agricultural Wastes/Residues is also being supported for power generation and/or production of bio-CNG. Details of Central Financial Assistance(CFA) provided for promotion of biogas under Biogas Power (off-grid) and Waste to Energy Programmes is given at Annexure 'A' and Annexure 'B', respectively.
